United Nations S/2002/1333

Security Council

Distr.: General
4 December 2002
English
Original: Arabic

Letter dated 4 December 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the daily report for 4 December 2002 on the activities of the inspection teams of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Iraq (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed A. **Aldouri**
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 4 December 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Daily report on the activities of the UNMOVIC and IAEA inspection teams in Iraq

Daily activity report for 4 December 2002

I

An UNMOVIC team comprising 17 inspectors and led by Mr. Demetrius Perricos set out from its base at the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 8.30 a.m. At 10.20 a.m. it arrived at the site of the former Muthanna State Establishment some 120 kilometres north of Baghdad. Immediately on arrival, it set about the tasks described hereunder.

1. The team leader met with the site liaison officer from the National Monitoring Directorate (NMD). He was asked to provide information on activities at the site since 1998 and, in particular, on excavation work and the whereabouts of tagged equipment. The NMD representative stated that the tagged equipment was still in storage and that excavation work had been undertaken in order to unearth equipment that had been destroyed and buried by the former Special Commission so as to protect it from misuse and theft, given that it had been buried in a location that was remote and difficult to guard. After they had been unearthed the items of equipment had been placed in storage, and the excavation process had been videotaped. Sensors had also been dismantled and stored in order to secure them.

2. After donning protective clothing, members of the team inspected some equipment, both destroyed and tagged.

3. The team looked at all parts of the site and its ruined facilities.

II

An IAEA team consisting of seven inspectors and led by Mr. Jacques Baute set out from its base at the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 8.30 a.m. At 8.53 a.m. the team arrived at the Iraqi Atomic Energy Commission (IAEC) site at Tuwaythah, south of Baghdad.

1. The team visited all the buildings of the physics department, including the ceramic, electron physics and radiophysics divisions, as well as the building of the department chief and the laser and plasma division. It took samples from one of the induction furnaces in order to verify that it had not been used for any prohibited activity. The team photographed all the items of equipment, noted their specifications and asked about their use and operation and their connection with the universities.

2. The team visited the chemistry and medical preparations department and observed the activities of the divisions for medical instruments and pharmaceutical precursors.

3. The team visited the radioactive waste treatment station (RWTS), which IAEA had allowed to be refurbished. The team photographed parts of the systems and examined the Agency seals that had been placed on them.

4. Using hand-held devices, the team conducted a radiometric survey of all the locations it visited in order to detect any alleged nuclear activity, nuclear materials or undeclared radiation sources.

III
Remarks

1. The former Muthanna State Establishment was the site of the largest and most prolonged destruction activity carried out by the former Special Commission, and a group of inspectors lived there for two full years (1992-1994) destroying equipment, buildings and machinery.

2. The IAEC site at Tuwaythah was one of those said by the two reports of September 2002, one from the United States Government and the other from the British Government, to be producing weapons of mass destruction. The western media published satellite photographs of buildings at the site, specifically those rebuilt after being destroyed in the 30-nation aggression of 1991, and they alleged that they were involved in activities in the field of weapons of mass destruction. It should be recalled that on 7 June 1981 this site, dedicated as it was to nuclear research for peaceful purposes, was the target of a brutal attack by the military aircraft of the Zionist entity and that the site had at that time been placed under the IAEA safeguards regime.